

VIIRS Reflective Solar Bands Calibration Updates

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Outline

- **CLARREO Related Activities**
- **VIIRS Reflective Solar Bands (RSB) and On-orbit Calibration**
- **2-Year On-orbit Performance (S-NPP VIIRS RSB)**
 - **Solar Diffuser and Solar Diffuser Stability Monitor**
 - **RSB Detector Responses from SD and Lunar Calibration**
 - **Detector SNRs**
- **Summary**

CLARREO Related Activities

- CLARREO Reflective Solar (RS) Calibration Uncertainty
 - Methodology and UC assessment tool development (internal technical report)
- Calibration Inter-comparison
 - Aqua MODIS and S-NPP VIIRS
 - Improve RS on-orbit calibration reference
- Importance of CLARREO to GSICS and other Missions
 - Jim Butler and Jack Xiong represented NASA at the 14th meeting of the GSICS Executive Panel at the Japan Meteorological Agency in Tokyo, Japan, July 15-16, 2013
 - Jack Xiong represented NASA at the GSICS Research Working Group meetings and user workshops (D. Doelling from LaRC also actively involved)
 - To brief current status of CLARREO while maintaining the project's international visibility, interest, and importance
- Publications
 - 1 paper on sensitivity study of RS sensor spectral range, sampling, and frequency (TGRS submitted)
 - 1 paper on VIIRS early on-orbit calibration (inter-comparison) performance (JGR in press)

Continued Importance of CLARREO to GSICS

- The scope of the Global Space-based Inter-calibration System (GSICS): to define, share and implement community-agreed best practices, standards, procedures and tools for optimizing the calibration of operational meteorological, climate and other environmental space-based observation instruments.
- GSICS recognizes that initiatives such as CLARREO and TRUTHS will provide hyperspectral instruments whose measurements are directly traceable to SI standards *in orbit*. These would provide critical benchmark observations for climate monitoring and absolute reference instruments for satellite inter-calibration.



← 14th GSICS Executive Panel meeting participants

15th GSICS Executive Panel meeting scheduled for May 16-17, 2014 at the China Meteorological Agency in Guangzhou, China.

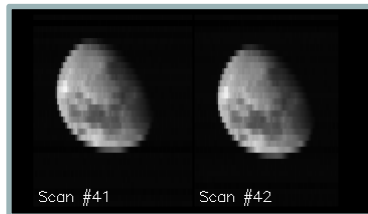
VIIRS Reflective Solar Bands

- Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS)
 - S-NPP VIIRS (F1) was launched on October 28, 2011 (SDR Cal/Val Review in Dec. 2013)
 - JPSS 1 VIIRS (F2) has nearly completed the sensor-level ambient test (launch in 2017)
 - JPSS 2 VIIRS (F3) is currently being built by the sensor vendor (launch in 2022)
- Heritage instruments: AVHRR, OLS, SeaWiFS, MODIS
- Spectral range: 22 bands between 0.4 μm and 12.5 μm
 - 16 moderate (radiometric) bands (M1-M16); 5 imaging bands (I1-I5), and 1 day/night band (DNB)
 - Dual gain bands: M1-M5, M7, and M13 (7 bands)
 - **Reflective solar bands (RSB): M1-M11, I1-I3, and DNB**
- Spatial resolution: 375 m for I-bands and 750 m for M-bands and DNB
- Swath: 3040 km (daily global coverage)
- On-board calibrators (MODIS heritage): SD, SDSM, and BB
- VIS/NIR, SMIR, and LWIR focal plane assemblies (FPA)
- Pixel aggregations (along-scan direction) and bowtie deletion (edge of scan)

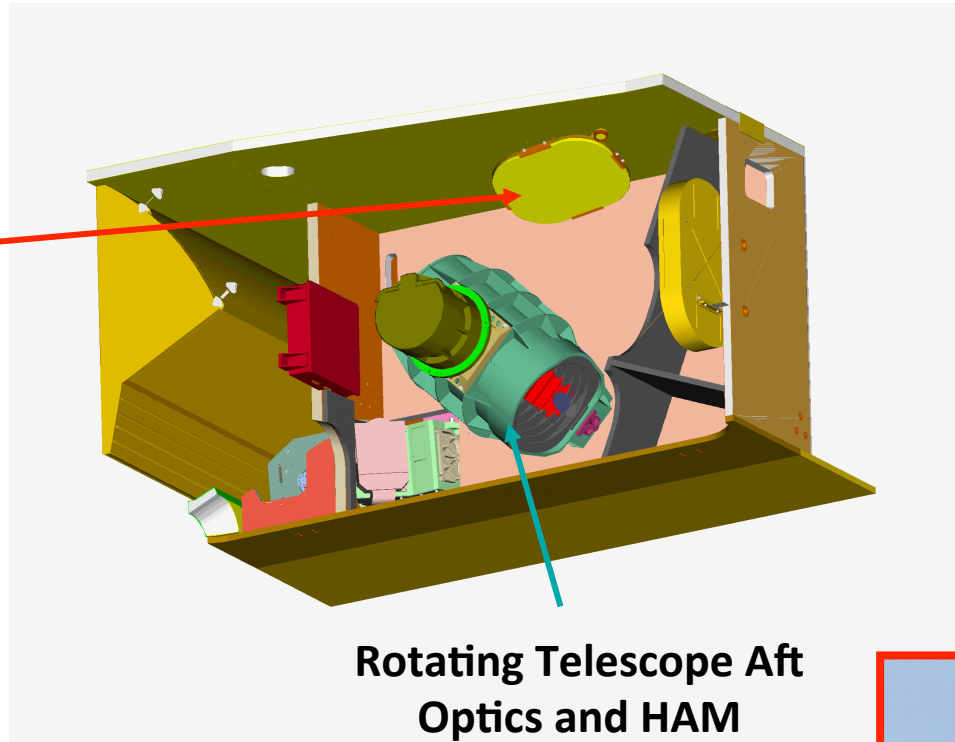
On-orbit Calibration (RSB)



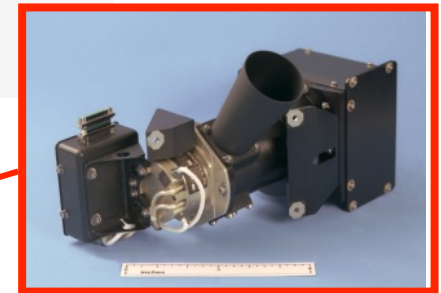
Solar Diffuser



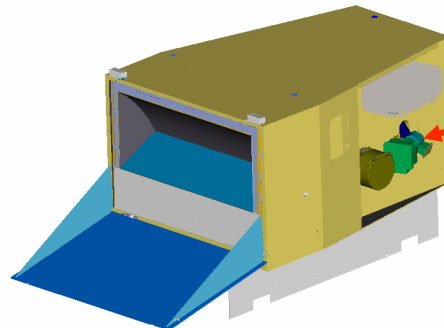
Moon in SV



Rotating Telescope Aft
Optics and HAM



Solar Diffuser Stability Monitor



Reflective Solar Bands Calibration Using SD and SDSM

On-orbit Operation and Calibration

- **Key Events (operation/calibration activities)**
 - Launch: 10/28/11
 - Instrument turn-on: 11/8/11
 - Nadir door open: 11/21/11 (first image from VIS/NIR)
 - Cryo-cooler door open: 1/18/12 (observations from all bands)
 - BB warm-up/cool-down: started from 2/6/12 (quarterly, 8 since launch)
 - SD calibration performed each orbit
 - SDSM operated on a daily basis
 - Roll maneuvers: started from 1/4/12 (near-monthly, 17 since launch)
 - Yaw maneuvers; 2/15/12 – 2/16/12 (SD/SDSM screen transmission)
 - Pitch maneuvers: 2/20/12 (TEB response versus scan angle)

RSB Solar Calibration

RSB Calibration F and H Factors

1/F: Detector Gain;
H-Factor: SD Degradation

$$L_{EV} = F \cdot (c_0 + c_1 \cdot dn_{EV} + c_2 \cdot dn_{EV}^2)$$

$$L_{SD_Meas} = F \cdot (c_0 + c_1 \cdot dn_{SD} + c_2 \cdot dn_{SD}^2)$$

$$L_{SD_Comp} \propto BRDF_{SD}(t) \cdot \tau_{SDS}$$

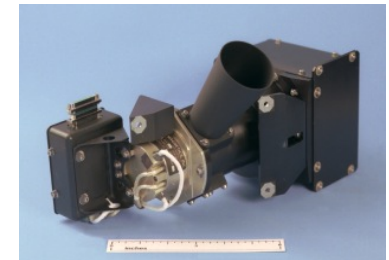
$$F = \frac{L_{SD_Comp}}{L_{SD_Meas}}$$



$$BRDF_{SD}(t) = H_{SD}(t) \cdot BRDF_{SD}(t_0)$$

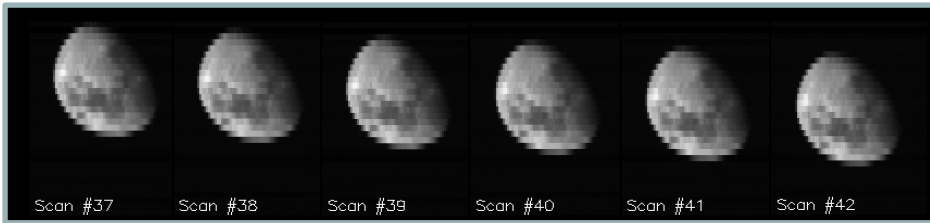
$$H_{SD}(t) = H(t) / H(t_0)$$

$$H(t) \propto \frac{dc_{SD} \cdot \tau_{SDSMS}}{dc_{SUN} \cdot \tau_{SDS}}$$



The dn and dc are VIIRS and SDSM detector “corrected” responses

RSB Lunar Calibration



Multiple scans of I1 lunar images (Jan 4, 2012)

- Integrated lunar irradiance (or radiance)

$$J(B, M, G) = \sum_{s,d} [c_0(B, M, G) + c_1(B, M, G)dn(s, d) + c_2(B, M, G)dn(s, d)^2]$$

- B : Band; M : HAM side; G : Gain stage; d : Detector; s : Sub-frame
- dn : Background subtracted response
- c_0 , c_1 , and c_2 : calibration coefficients

- Relative lunar F-factor

$$F(B, M, G) = J_{Model}(B) / J_{sensor}(B, M, G)$$



SD F-factor

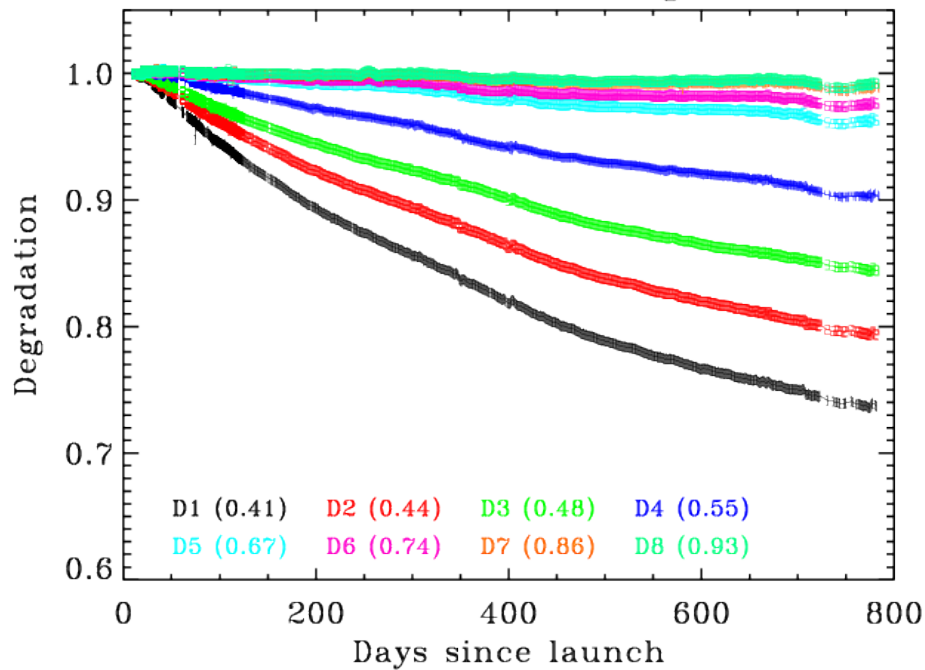
$$F = \frac{L_{SD_Comp}}{L_{SD_Meas}}$$

- Lunar model (ROLO) predication provided by Tom Stone (USGS)

On-orbit Performance

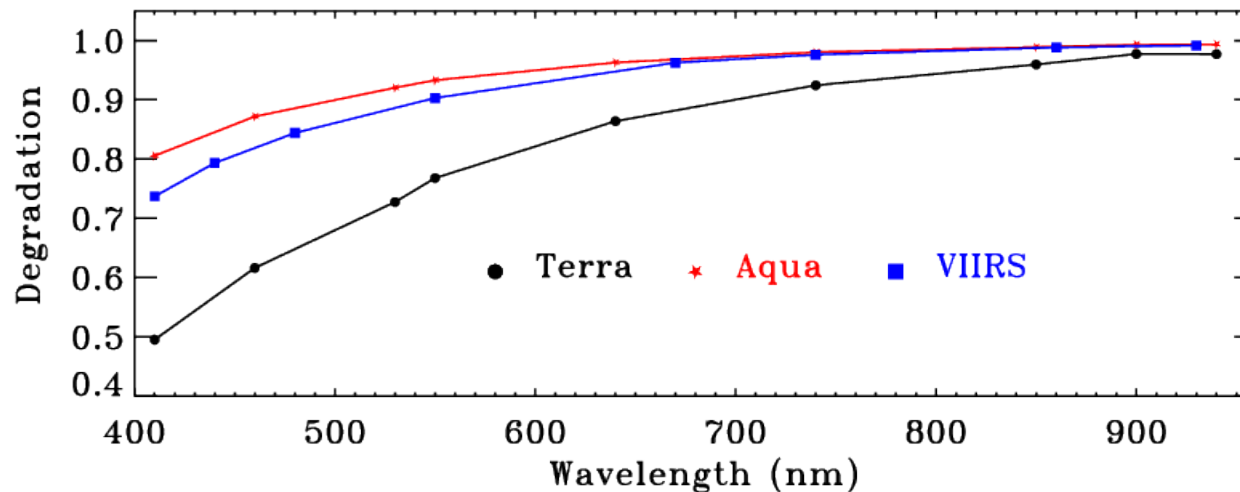
- **SD Degradation**
 - Larger degradation at shorter wavelengths
- **Changes in Spectral Band Response**
 - Large changes for several NIR/SWIR bands (caused by RTA mirrors contamination)
 - SNR performance continue to meet the design requirements a
- **Changes in Relative Spectral Response (RSR)**
 - Modulated RSR developed and applied to calibration and SDR data production

SD On-orbit Degradation



← VIIRS SD Degradation (H-Factor)

MODIS & VIIRS SD Degradation

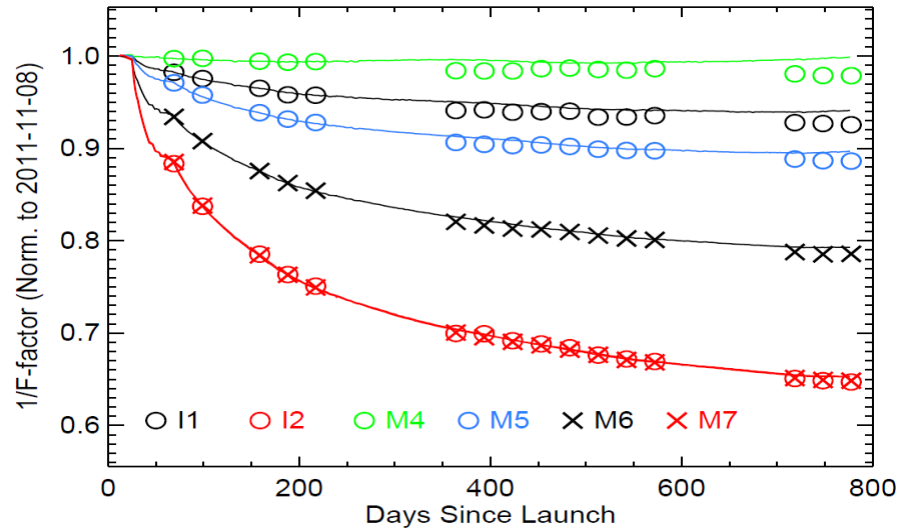


VIIRS has no SD door
Terra MODIS SD door
fixed at open since July
2003

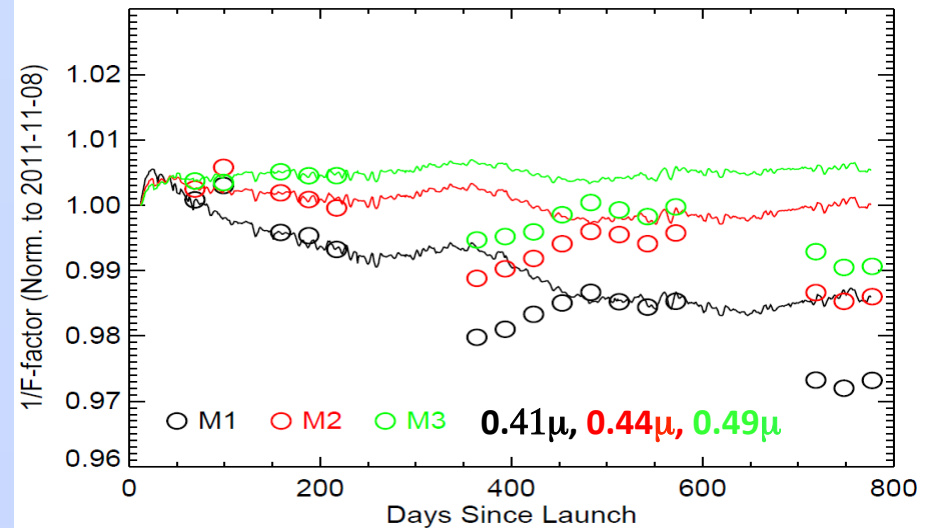
S-NPP VIIRS: 2 Yr
Aqua MODIS: 11.5 Yr
Terra MODIS: 14 Yr

Changes in Spectral Band Response

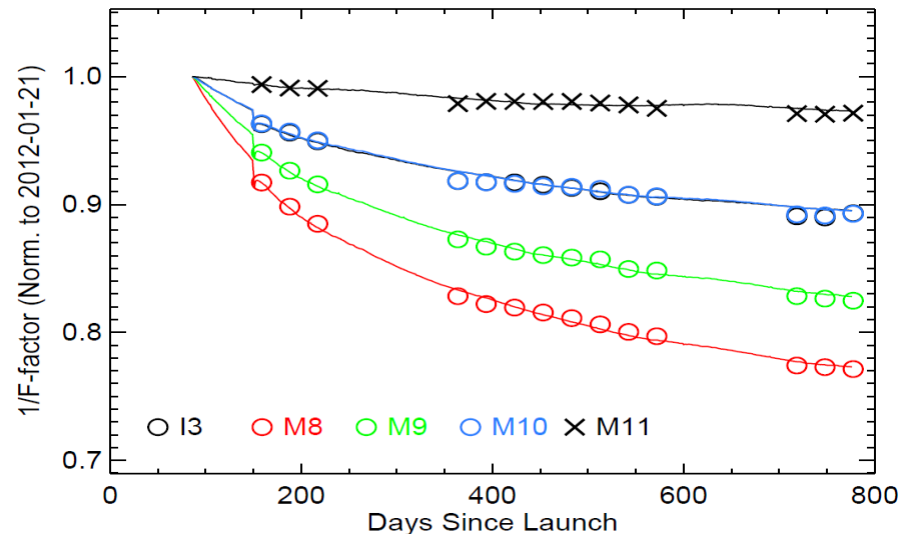
VIIRS VISNIR: Modulated RSR



VIIRS VISNIR: Modulated RSR



VIIRS SWIR: Modulated RSR

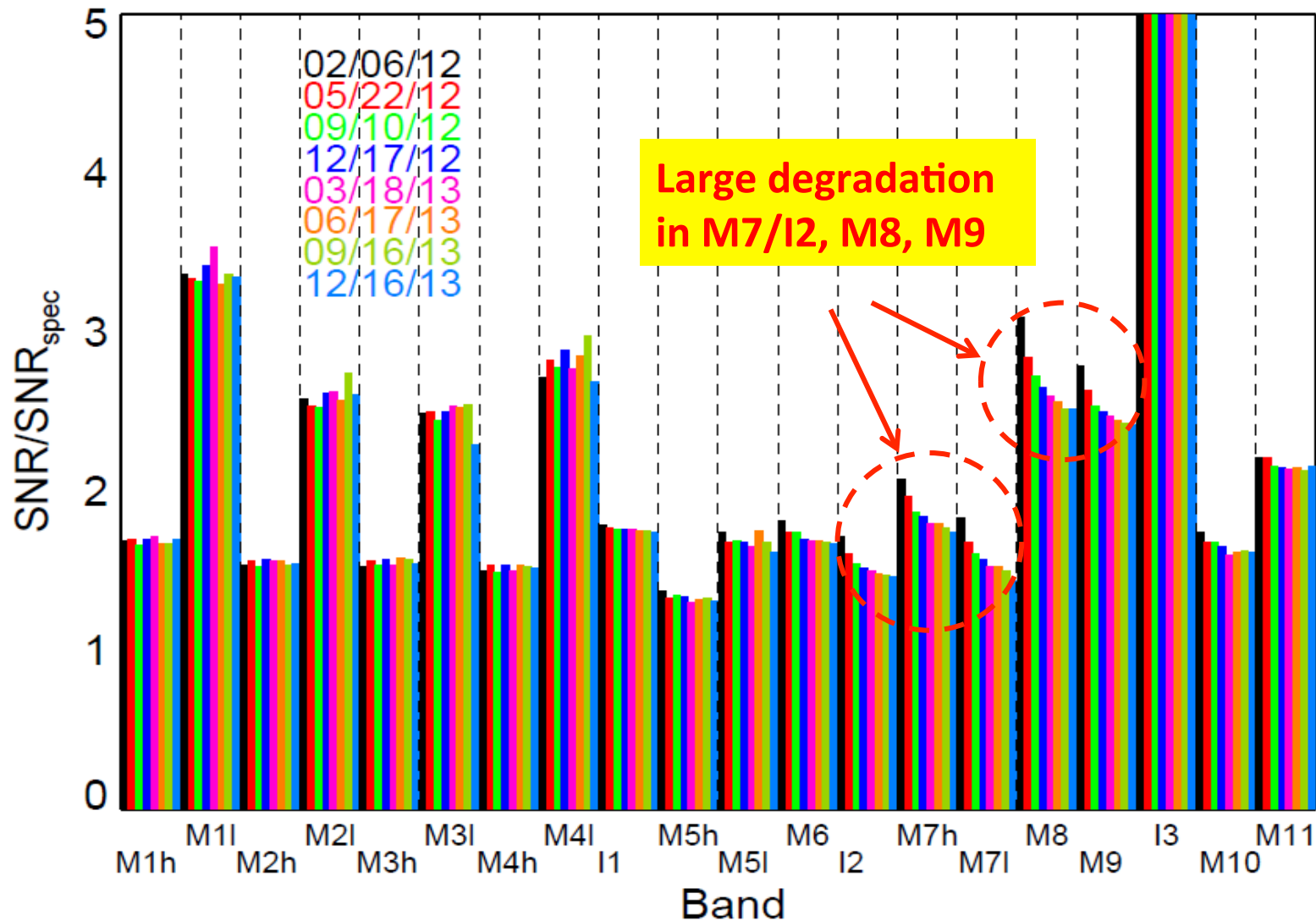


Large changes in NIR/SWIR response

Noticeable SD and Lunar calibration difference in VIS (M1-M3)

Improvements: SD calibration and lunar model

On-orbit SNR Performance

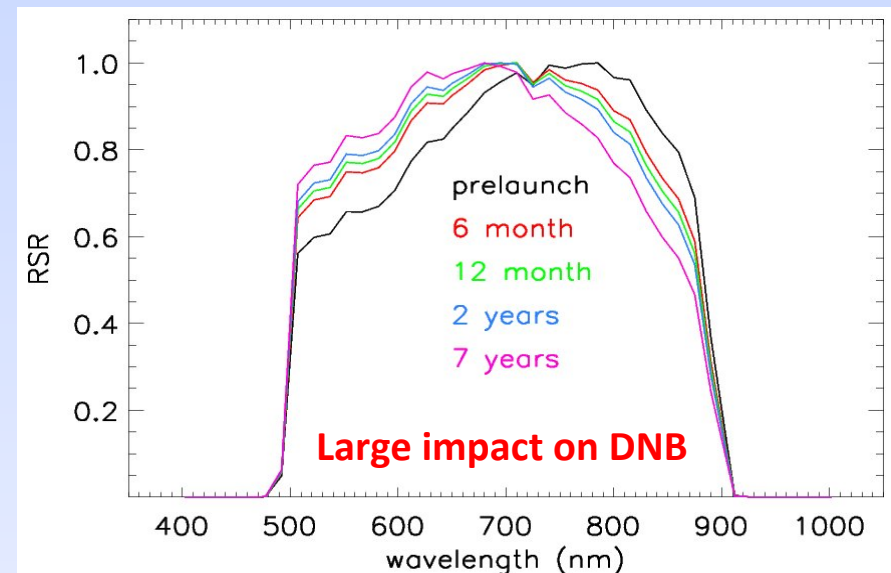
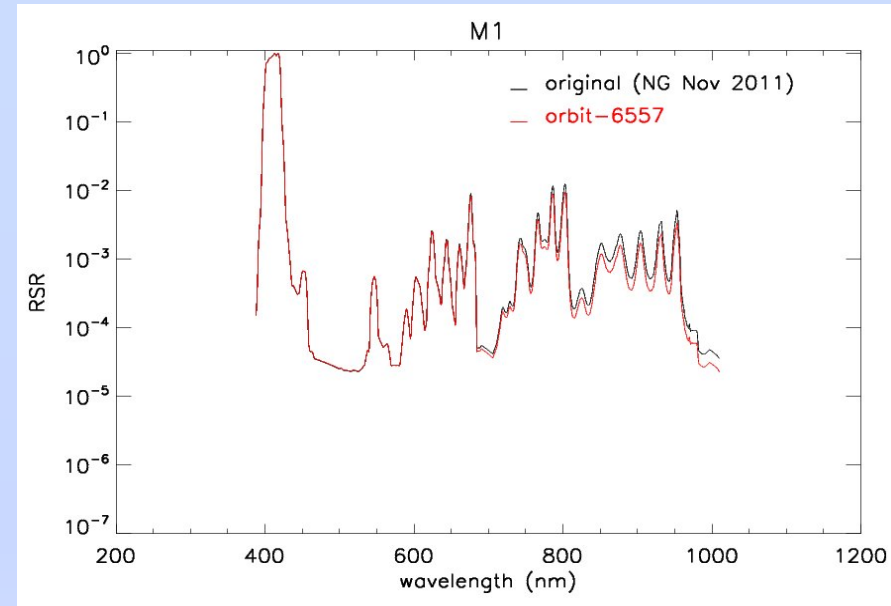
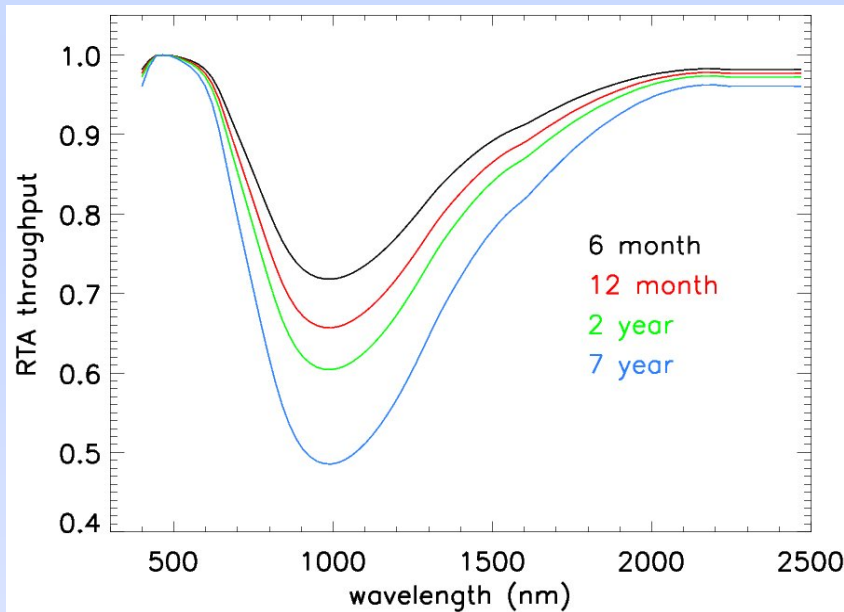


$\text{SNR}/\text{SNR}_{\text{spec}} > 1$: performance better than specification

Changes in Relative Spectral Response

Mirror Degradation Impact on Sensor Relative Spectral Response

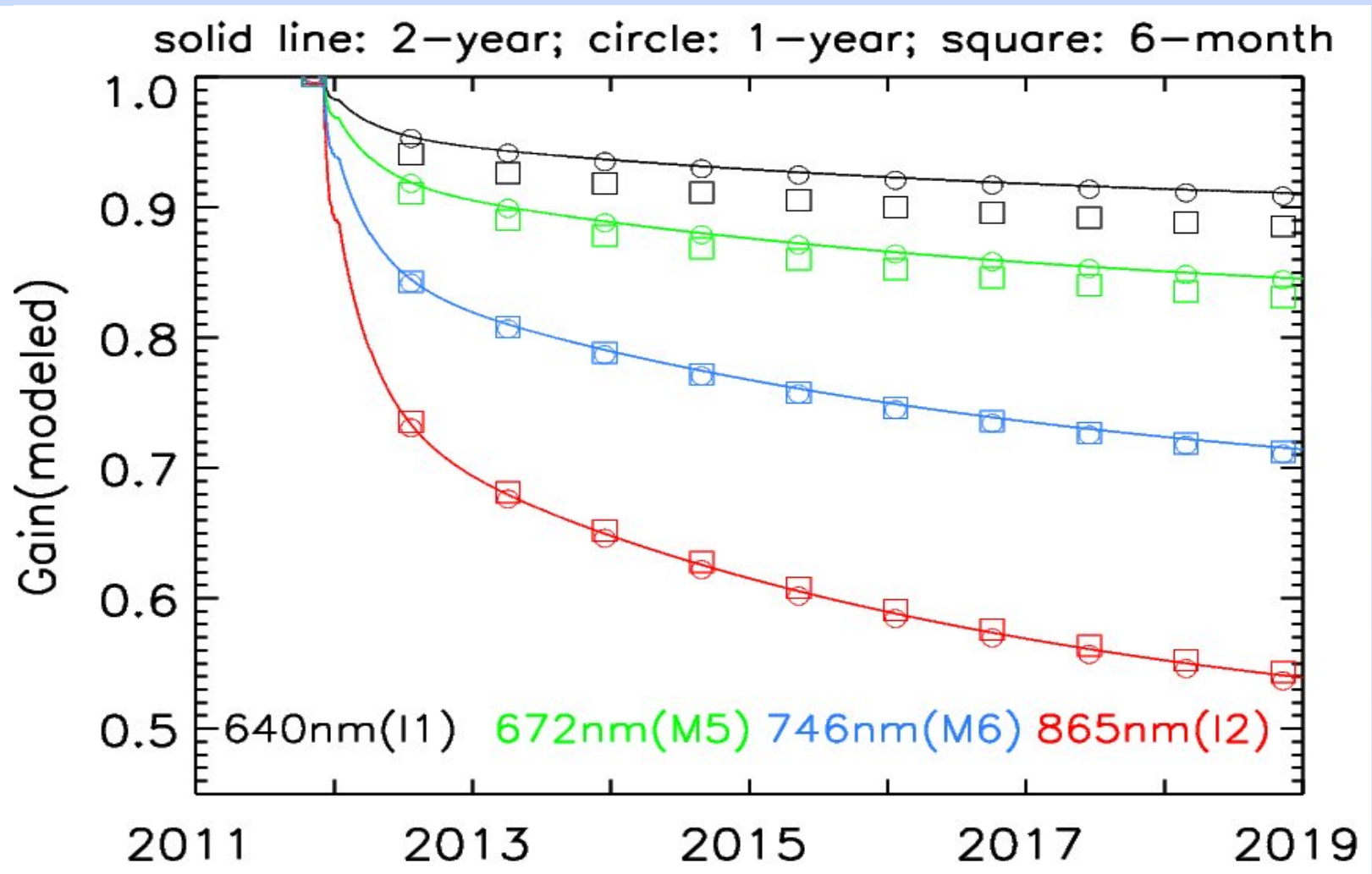
λ dependent optics degradation



Modulate RSR has been applied to VIIRS calibration and data production

Changes in Relative Spectral Response

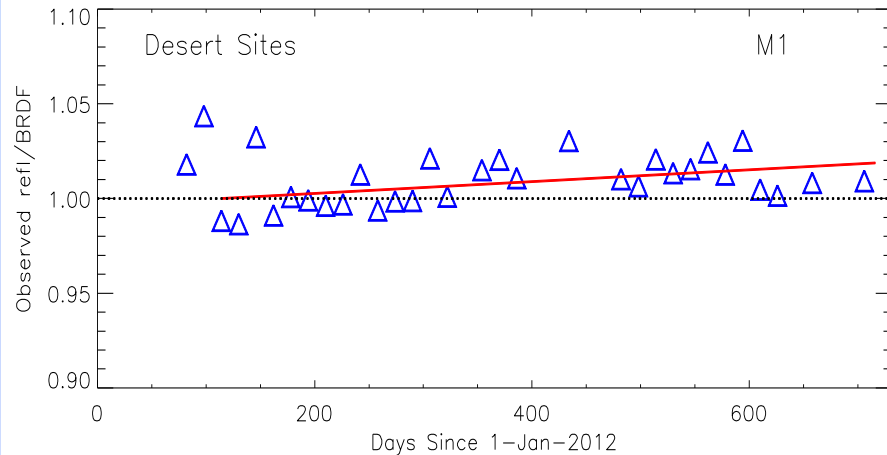
Mirror Degradation Modeling and Predication (design lifetime: 7 years)



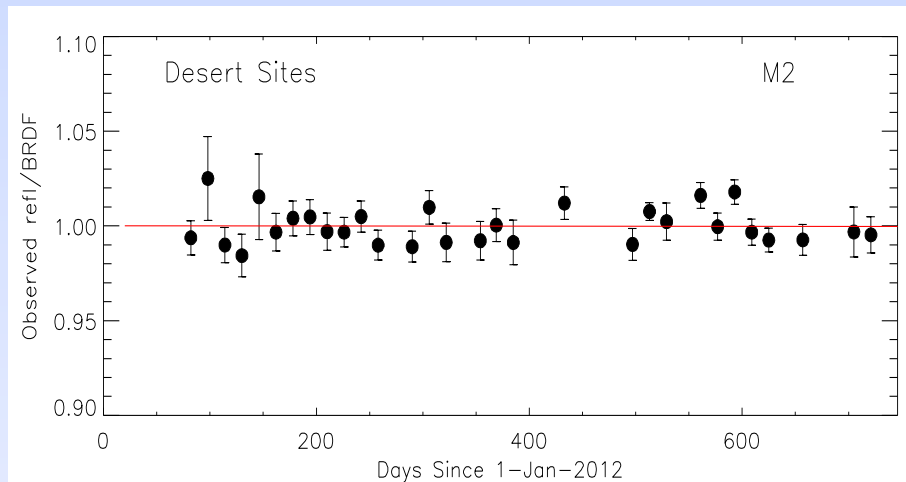
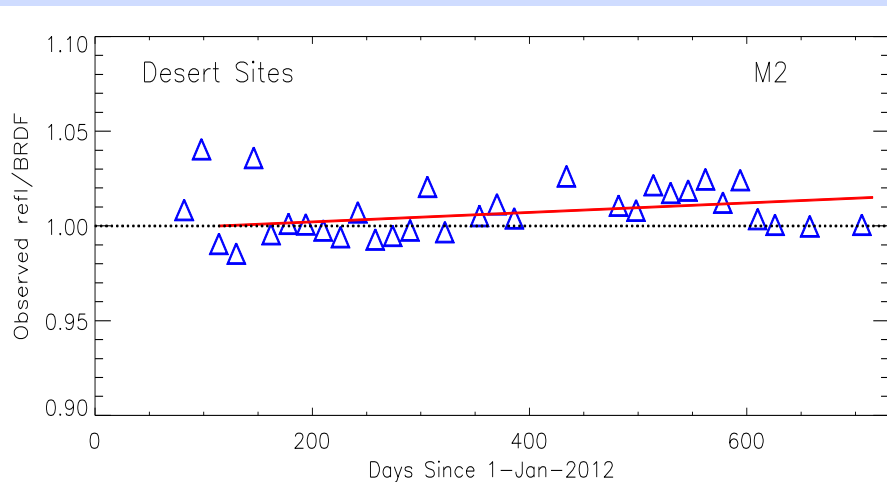
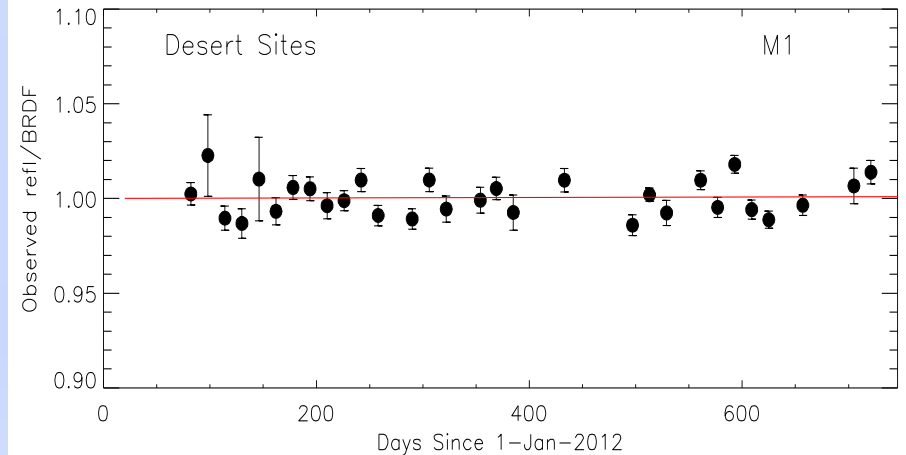
SDR Calibration Performance

VIIRS reflectance trends over the Libya-4 desert

IDPS SDR (operational LUTs)



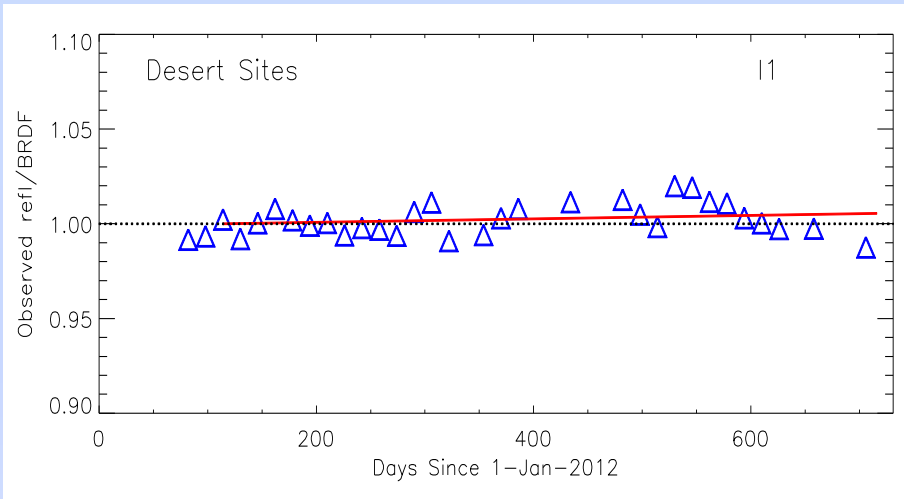
L-PEATE SDR (VCST LUTs)



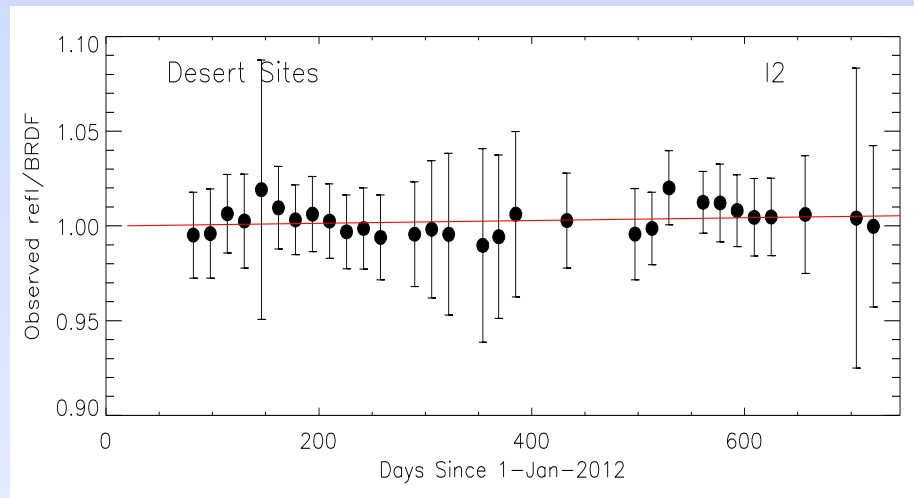
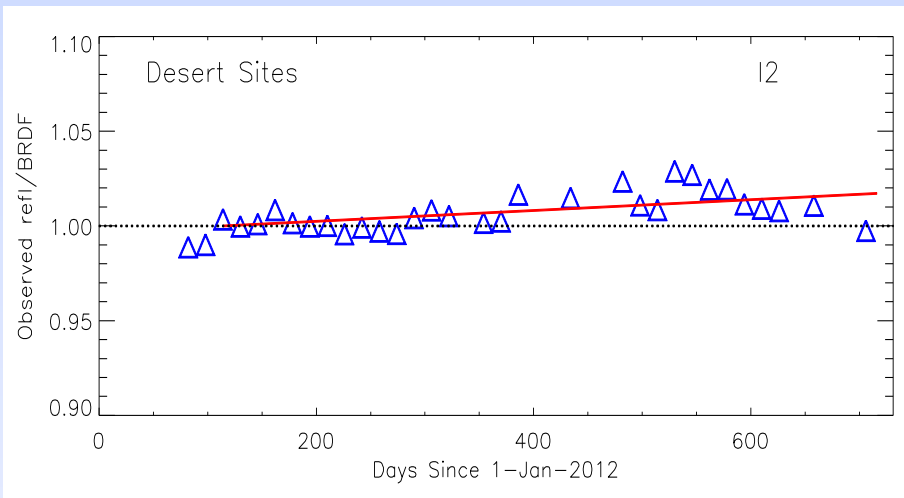
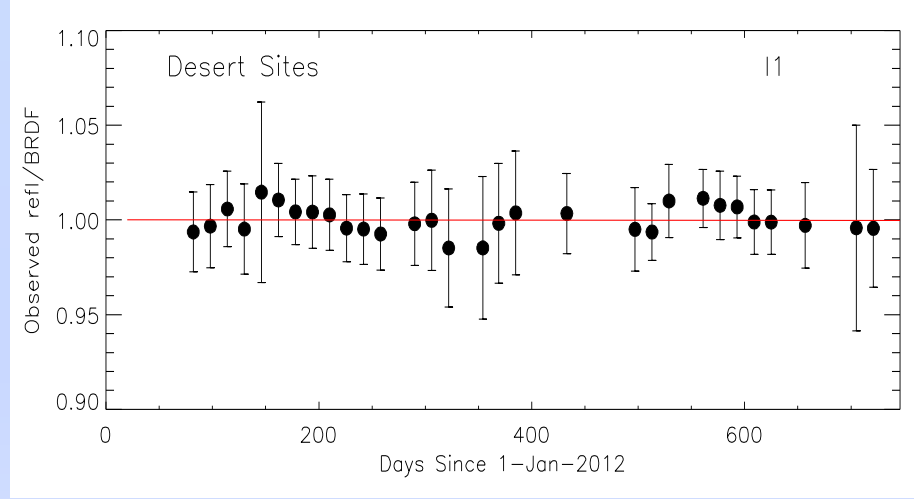
SDR Calibration Performance

VIIRS reflectance trends over the Libya-4 desert

IDPS SDR (operational LUTs)



L-PEATE SDR (VCST LUTs)



RS Cal UC Assessment Tool: Status and Path Forward

- **Completed an Excel tool to assess the CLARREO RS calibration error budget based on basic assumptions for the instrument design**
 - The tool is operational and gives adequate results when tested with known parameters (from MODIS);
 - For CLARREO the tool is operated with sample input (for illustration purposes only);
 - The error analysis implemented in the CLARREO tool is documented (an internal technical memo);
 - The tool design is flexible and allows easy implementation of new elements or the usage of alternative instrument designs and their respective uncertainty sources.
- **For a realistic estimate of the CLARREO error budget, a database should be compiled with values of different UC contributors using results from instrument prototype or other sensors with similar design, including**
 - Solar attenuation mechanism and uncertainty – several alternative methods could be implemented with input from their respective uncertainty estimates;
 - Stray light at Earth and Sun view;
 - Spectral resolution and wavelength calibration uncertainty;
 - Detector response characterization and uncertainty (as a function of instrument conditions);
 - Polarization sensitivity uncertainty (as a function of instrument conditions)

TOA Reflectance Retrieval

Earth view reflectance $\rho_{EV}(\lambda)$:

$$\rho_{EV}(\lambda) = \frac{\pi L_{EVap}(\lambda)}{E_{sun}(\lambda, d_{SE}) \cos(\theta_{SE})}$$

Stray light radiance is presented as a fraction radiance at the aperture.

$$\rho_{EV}(\theta_{EV}, \lambda) = \frac{1}{\cos(\theta_{SE})} \frac{d_{SE}^2}{d_{Sun}^2} \frac{f(\lambda, \Delta t) g(\lambda, \Delta T) (1 + s_{Sun}) \tau_{atten} A_{atten} \Delta t_{eSun}}{\Omega_{ap} A_d (1 + s_{EV}) \Delta t_e} \times \frac{r(x, y, t_{EV}) dn_{EV}(x, y)}{\sum_i \sum_{y'} r(x_i, y'_i, t_{Sun}) dn_{Sun}(x_i, y'_i)}$$

Detector response considered linear

where $dn(x, y) = DN(x, y) - DN_{BG}$;

and the reciprocal detector response is: $F(\lambda, t) c(\lambda, T_{INST}(t)) r(\lambda, x, y, t)$

$F(\lambda, t)$ – characterized on orbit:

$F(\lambda, t_{EV}) = f(\lambda, \Delta t) F(\lambda, t_{SV})$; $\Delta t = t_{SV} - t_{EV}$.

$c(\lambda, T_{INST})$ – from pre-launch characterization:

$c(\lambda, T_{EV}) = g(\lambda, \Delta T) c(\lambda, T_{SV})$; $\Delta T = T_{SV} - T_{EV}$.

$r(x, y, t)$ – flat field pix-to-pix response measured on orbit.

E_{sun} – Solar irradiance at the Earth surface.

$\cos(\theta_{SE})$ – Angle of incidence of the solar light on the Earth.

L_{EVap} – Earth radiance at the aperture.

$s_{EV}(\lambda), s_{Sun}(\lambda)$ – Stray light correction.

$\tau_{sys}(\lambda)$ – System transmittance of the common optical path between EV and Sun view.

$\tau_{pol}(\lambda)$ – Polarization sensitivity (EV).

A_d, Ω_{ap} – Field stop area and aperture solid angle.

$\tau_{atten}(\lambda)$ – Attenuator transmittance.

A_{atten} – Attenuator area.

Δt_e – Exposure time.

$dn(x, y)$ – Offset subtracted counts at pixel with coordinates x (spectral), y (spatial).

$c(\lambda, T_{INST})$ – Average (over pixels) detector response, characterized prelaunch.

$F(\lambda, t)$ – Correction to the detector response accounting for time dependent degradation. Evaluated on-orbit.

$r(x, y, t)$ – Flat field detector response (accounting for pix-to-pix variations) possibly a function of time. Evaluated on-orbit.

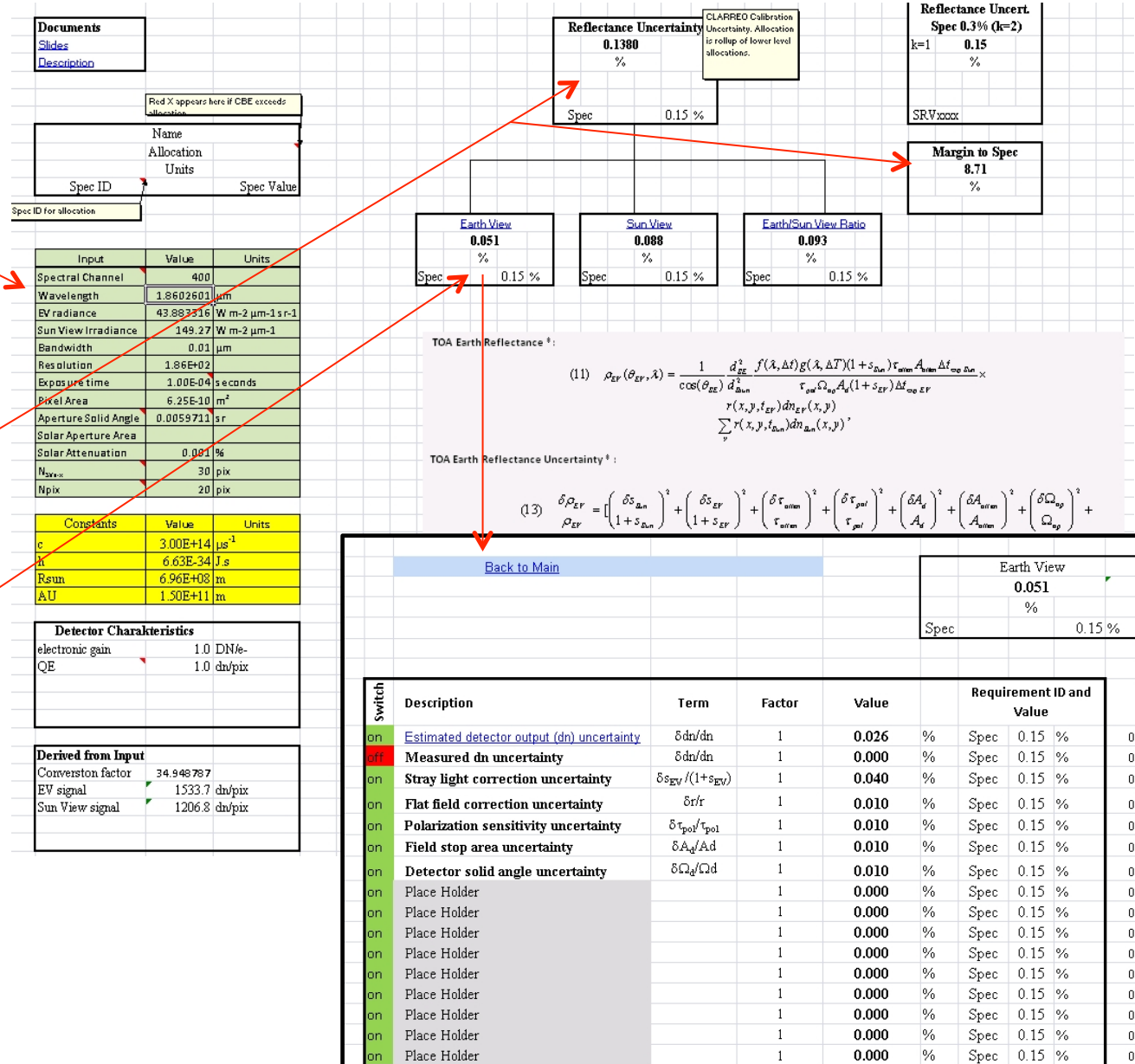
TOA Reflectance Retrieval Uncertainty

Earth reflectance uncertainty:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\delta \rho_{EV}}{\rho_{EV}} = & \left[\left(\frac{\delta s_{Sun}}{1 + s_{Sun}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta s_{EV}}{1 + s_{EV}} \right)^2 + \right. & \longrightarrow & \text{Stray light correction uncertainty} \\
 & \left(\frac{\delta \tau_{atten}}{\tau_{atten}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta \tau_{pol}}{\tau_{pol}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta A_d}{A_d} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta A_{atten}}{A_{atten}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta \Omega_{ap}}{\Omega_{ap}} \right)^2 + & \longrightarrow & \text{Uncertainties on instrument characteristics which can only be estimated pre-launch.} \\
 & \left(\frac{\delta f}{f} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta g}{g} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta r_{xy}}{r_{xy}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sum_{i,y} (\delta r_{x_i y_i})^2}{(\sum_{i,y} r_{x_i y_i})^2} \right) + & \longrightarrow & \begin{aligned} & \delta g - \text{Uncertainty on the detector response as function of instrument conditions – estimated pre-launch. Possible wavelength and spectral resolution differences between EV and Sun view should be included in this estimate.} \\ & \delta f - \text{Uncertainty in the detector degradation estimate at } t_{EV} \text{ based on } t_{Sun}. \text{ Wavelength and spectral differences to be considered.} \\ & \delta r - \text{Uncertainty on flat field response (to account for pix-to-pix variations).} \end{aligned} \\
 & \left. + \left(\frac{\delta dn_{EV}}{dn_{EV}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sum_{i,y} (\delta dn_{Sun})^2}{(\sum_{i,y} dn_{Sun})^2} \right) + \right. & \longrightarrow & \text{Signal noise: shutter noise, read out noise, dark current noise, ADC quantization noise} \\
 & + 2 \left(\frac{\partial E_{Sun} / \partial \lambda}{E_{Sun}} \right)^2 \delta \lambda^2 + 2 \left(\frac{\delta \Delta \lambda}{\Delta \lambda} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta \Delta t_{eratio}}{\Delta t_{eratio}} \right)^2 & \longrightarrow & \text{Exposure time (EV /Sun View) ratio uncertainty.} \\
 & \left. + \left(\frac{\Delta \rho_{nonlin}}{\rho_{EV}} \right)^2 \right]^{-1/2} & \longrightarrow & \text{Uncertainty from detector nonlinearity}
 \end{aligned}$$

Tool Interface

- Input:
 - ✓ Instrument parameters
 - ✓ Spectral channel
- Output:
 - ✓ TOA reflectance uncertainty and margin to spec.
 - ✓ Uncertainty calculated for each view separately
 - ✓ Each view uncertainty is a combination of lower level uncertainties



Summary

- VIIRS continues to operate and calibrate well
 - Use of on-board calibrators (OBC): SD, SDSM, BB and lunar observations
 - On-orbit changes in sensor response are frequently and accurately tracked by the OBC
 - Data quality maintained via frequent calibration LUT updates
- Overall VIIRS on-orbit performance meets the design requirements
 - SDR quality: validated
 - Future improvements and dedicated calibration effort (e.g. modulated RSR)
- Importance of CALRREO to missions like Terra, Aqua, S-NPP, and JPSS

VIIRS and MODIS Spectral Bands

| VIIRS Band | Spectral Range (um) | Nadir HSR (m) | MODIS Band(s) | Range | HSR |
|------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| DNB | 0.500 - 0.900 | | | | |
| M1 | 0.402 - 0.422 | 750 | 8 | 0.405 - 0.420 | 1000 |
| M2 | 0.436 - 0.454 | 750 | 9 | 0.438 - 0.448 | 1000 |
| M3 | 0.478 - 0.498 | 750 | 3 10 | 0.459 - 0.479 0.483 - 0.493 | 500 1000 |
| M4 | 0.545 - 0.565 | 750 | 4 or 12 | 0.545 - 0.565 0.546 - 0.556 | 500 1000 |
| I1 | 0.600 - 0.680 | 375 | 1 | 0.620 - 0.670 | 250 |
| M5 | 0.662 - 0.682 | 750 | 13 or 14 | 0.662 - 0.672 0.673 - 0.683 | 1000 1000 |
| M6 | 0.739 - 0.754 | 750 | 15 | 0.743 - 0.753 | 1000 |
| I2 | 0.846 - 0.885 | 375 | 2 | 0.841 - 0.876 | 250 |
| M7 | 0.846 - 0.885 | 750 | 16 or 2 | 0.862 - 0.877 0.841 - 0.876 | 1000 250 |
| M8 | 1.230 - 1.250 | 750 | 5 | SAME | 500 |
| M9 | 1.371 - 1.386 | 750 | 26 | 1.360 - 1.390 | 1000 |
| I3 | 1.580 - 1.640 | 375 | 6 | 1.628 - 1.652 | 500 |
| M10 | 1.580 - 1.640 | 750 | 6 | 1.628 - 1.652 | 500 |
| M11 | 2.225 - 2.275 | 750 | 7 | 2.105 - 2.155 | 500 |
| I4 | 3.550 - 3.930 | 375 | 20 | 3.660 - 3.840 | 1000 |
| M12 | 3.660 - 3.840 | 750 | 20 | SAME | 1000 |
| M13 | 3.973 - 4.128 | 750 | 21 or 22 | 3.929 - 3.989 3.929 - 3.989 | 1000 1000 |
| M14 | 8.400 - 8.700 | 750 | 29 | SAME | 1000 |
| M15 | 10.263 - 11.263 | 750 | 31 | 10.780 - 11.280 | 1000 |
| I5 | 10.500 - 12.400 | 375 | 31 or 32 | 10.780 - 11.280 11.770 - 12.270 | 1000 1000 |
| M16 | 11.538 - 12.488 | 750 | 32 | 11.770 - 12.270 | 1000 |

1 DNB

14 RSB
(0.4-2.3 μm)

Dual gains:
M1-M4, M6, M7
M12

7 TEB

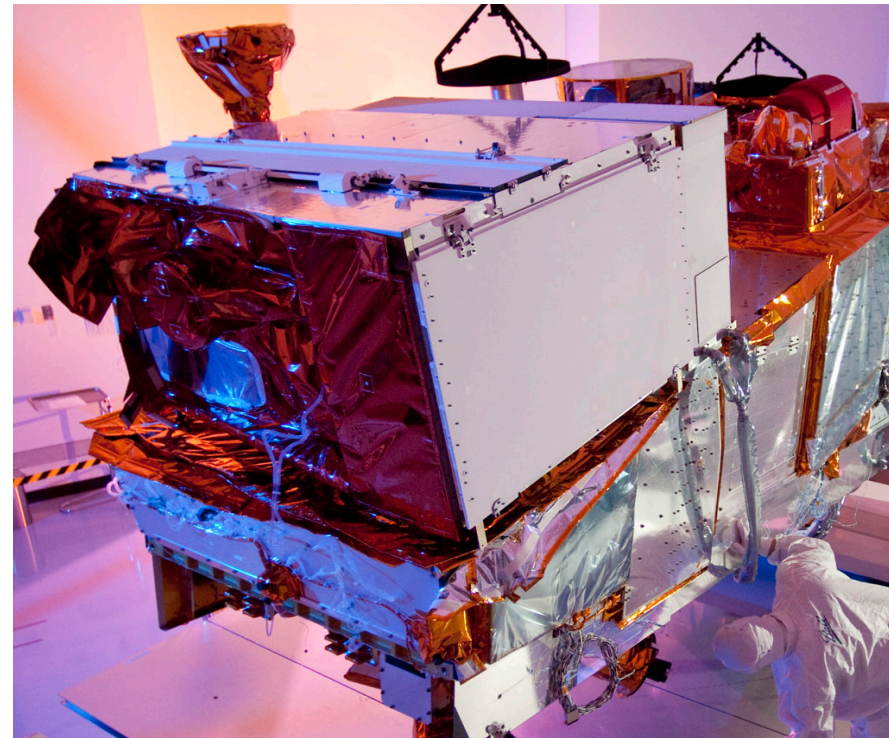
VIIRS Reflective Solar Bands (RSB)

Description

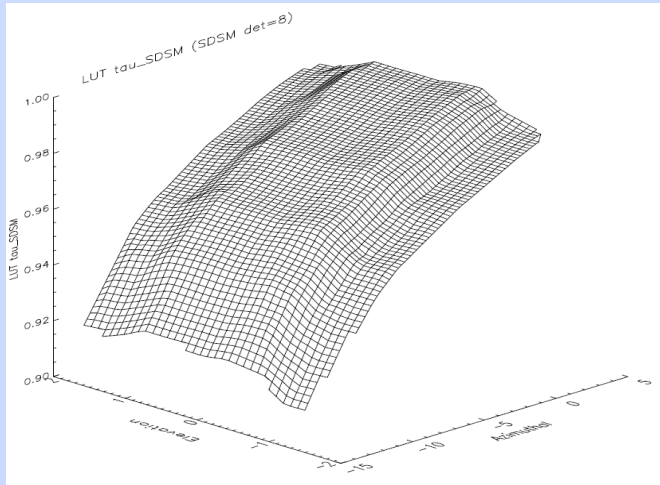
- Purpose: Global observations of land, ocean, & atmosphere parameters at high temporal resolution (\sim daily)
- Predecessor Instruments: AVHRR, OLS, SeaWiFS, MODIS
- Spectral range: 22 bands between $0.4\ \mu\text{m}$ and $12.5\ \mu\text{m}$
- Spatial resolution: 375 and 750 m
- Swath Width: 3000 km

Key Features

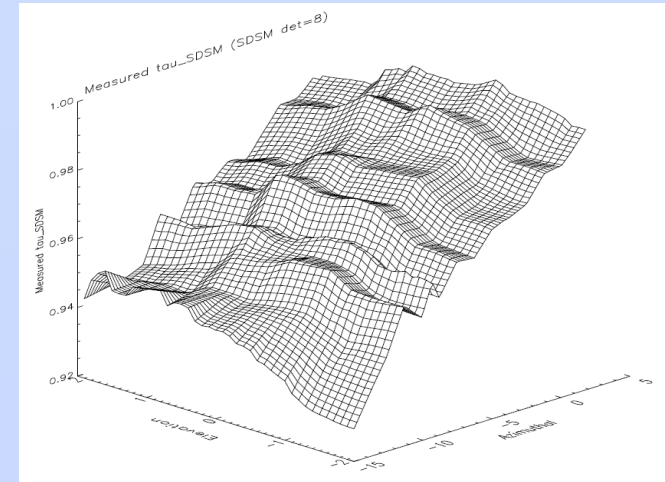
- MODIS-like on-board calibrators
- 16 moderate (radiometric), 5 imaging, and 1 day/night bands
- Dual gains (7 bands)
- VIS/NIR, SMIR, and LWIR focal plane assemblies (FPA)
- Pixel aggregations and bowtie deletion



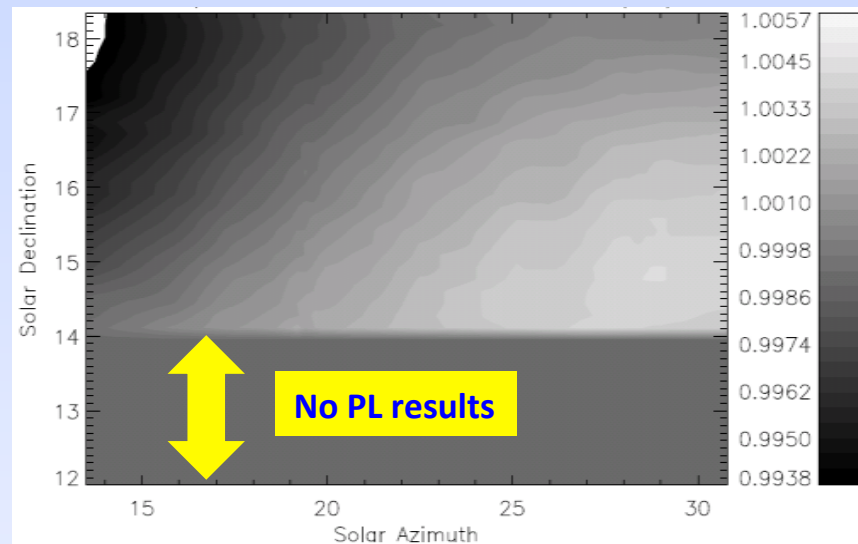
Yaw Maneuvers: Results and Applications



**SDSM Sun view
screen transmission:
Fine structure**



**Ratio of Pre-launch LUT to Yaw
Results (SD screen transmission x BRF)**

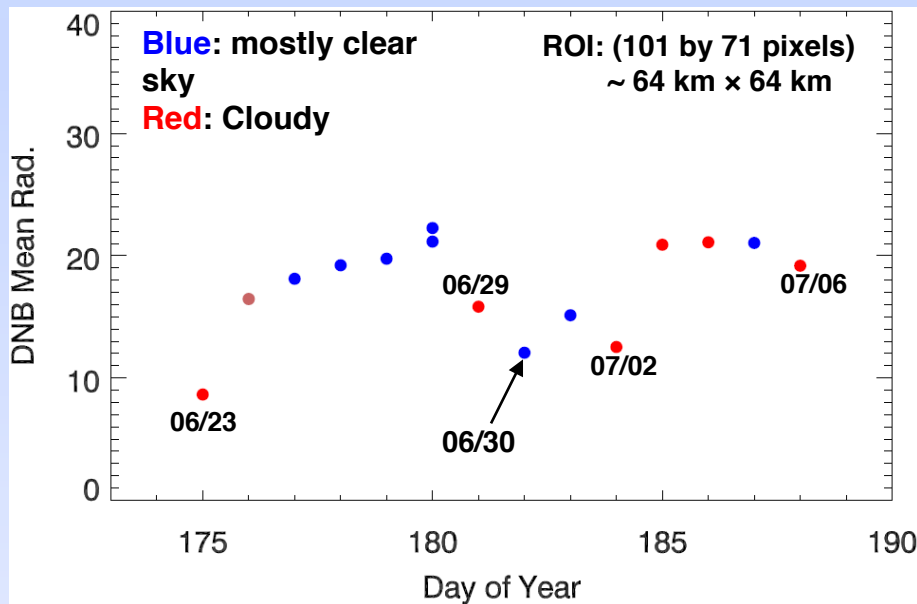


**SDSM Sun view screen transmission
function derived from yaw maneuvers has
been used in SDR calibration**

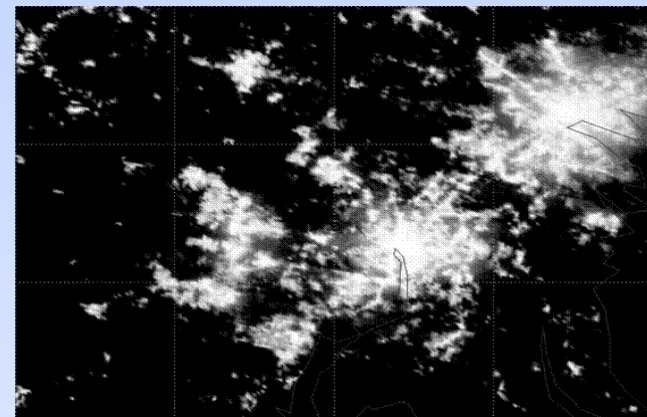
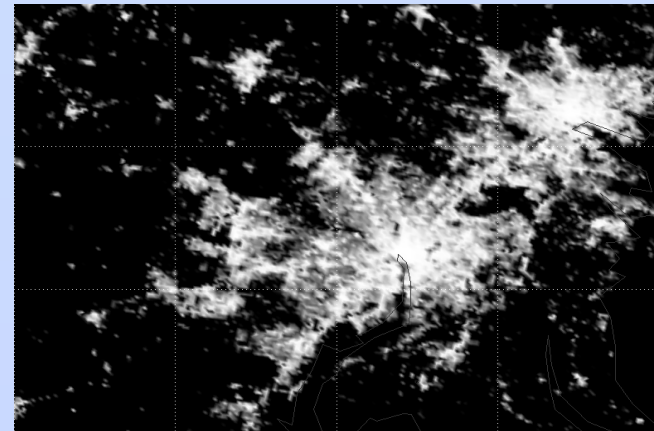
**The LUT for SD screen transmission x BRF
derived from yaw maneuvers has also been
applied recently to SDR calibration**

DNB: Many New Applications

- The Day/Night Band has been used to detect a major power outage in the Washington, DC on the night of the Direcho storm on June 29, 2012.
- An analysis of the data after the storm showed that most areas had power restored within 3 days.



VIIRS DNB radiance time series before and after the power outage (6/29) shows that most of the power was restored in three days.



VIIRS DNB of the Washington/Baltimore area on June 26th (top) and June 30th. The suburbs west of DC and Baltimore, in particular show dark areas.

From GSICS presentation (Cao and Xiong)